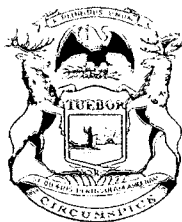


STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive
Office

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm,
do hereby proclaim April 2008, as

Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

Whereas, Each year there are more than 120,000 reports of child maltreatment in Michigan, 30 percent of which are substantiated; and,

Whereas, Nationally, more than 1,500 children died from abuse in 2006, with 80 percent of those children being under the age of four; and,

Whereas, During periods of economic challenges, families are much more vulnerable, and the incidence of abuse increases across all segments of our society, with risk factors greater in families where the parent abuses alcohol or drugs, is isolated from their families or communities, has difficulty controlling anger or stress, appears uninterested in the care, nourishment or safety of their children, or seems to be having serious economic, housing or personal problems; and,

Whereas, At the state and national level, child abuse is considered to be one of our nation's most serious public health problems, with scientific studies documenting the link between the abuse and neglect of children and a wide range of medical, emotional, psychological and behavioral disorders such as depression, alcoholism, drug abuse, severe obesity, juvenile delinquency, and the need for special education services; and,

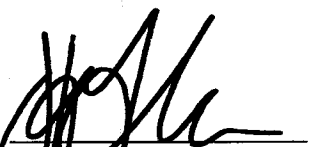
Whereas, Prevention strengthens families and is cost effective, and it is estimated that nationally, \$94 billion is spent on the treatment and consequences of child maltreatment; and,

Whereas, Warning signs that a child might be abused or neglected include nervousness around adults, aggression toward children or adults, inability to stay awake or concentrate for long periods, sudden dramatic changes in personality or activities, acting out sexually or showing interest in sex that is not age appropriate, frequent or unexplained bruises or injuries, low self-esteem, and poor hygiene; and,

Whereas, Child Abuse Prevention Month is an acknowledged community responsibility, and "The Power of One Action," a statewide initiative under the leadership of the Children's Trust Fund calls upon and commissions every Michigan citizens to do at least one intentional act during April to make Michigan families safe for children; and now therefore be it,

Resolved, That I, Jennifer Granholm, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim April 2008 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in Michigan, and I encourage all citizens to join me in dedicating our energies to cherishing Michigan's children and helping them grow and develop free from physical, emotional, and sexual harm.




Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor